



West Des Moines Parks & Recreation has put forth plans to develop five signature projects that will transform our parks. The goal of the Five Waters Project is to give residents and visitors of all ages and abilities new ways to paddle, dance, relax, run, explore, cycle, walk, and more in the great outdoors.

ATHENE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Spanning the beautiful Raccoon River, the Athene Pedestrian Bridge will serve as a seamless connection for cyclists and pedestrians from Raccoon River Park to Walnut Woods State Park and dozens of miles of future trails. A capital fundraising campaign was kicked off in September of 2021 for the Athene Pedestrian Bridge, the first of two bridges. Construction is planned to begin in early 2023. Donations are currently being accepted at www.greatoutdoorsfoundation.org/raccoon-river-pedestrian-bridge.



MARATHON LOOP

Completing a 26.2 mile trail connecting Valley View Park, Southwoods Park, Raccoon River Park and future parks, the Marathon Loop allows cyclists, walkers, runners, and visitors of all ages and abilities to embrace the outdoors. This nature-friendly project also works to protect wildlife and preserve land for future generations. And the best news is - it's already 50% complete!

RACCOON RIVER GREENWAY

Protecting land and wildlife while providing additional river access for paddlers on the ICON Water Trails, the greenway will also allow for camping close to home. As if that wasn't enough, this project will allow exploration of the tree canopy - a whole new way to discover nature. Through a donation and grants, 34 acres were added to the Raccoon River Greenway in 2020.

**SUPPORTING AND
PROMOTING
WEST DES MOINES
PARKS,
TRAILS, AND
RECREATION
PROGRAMS**



**FRIENDS OF
WEST DES MOINES
PARKS &
RECREATION**

FriendsOfWDMParks@gmail.com
www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsOfWDMPR



JAMIE HURD AMPHITHEATER

Bringing people together to share inspiring musical performances and creative showcases, the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater serves as our cultural center. Nestled between the neighborhood pond and rolling green hills of the City Campus, the Jamie Hurd Amphitheater opened in September of 2020.

www.wdm.iowa.gov/JHA



RACCOON RIVER PARK BOATHOUSE

Offering visitors more ways to explore Blue Heron Lake, the state-of-the-art boathouse with restrooms offers boat rentals, including canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, standup paddleboards and more. The boathouse also serves as a river trail and land trail hub and offers additional parking for easy access to the water. The Boathouse opened in July of 2020.

www.wdm.iowa.gov/Boathouse



ABOUT US

Friends of West Des Moines Parks and Recreation is a nonprofit group organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our mission is to support the development and enhancement of public parks, facilities, and recreation programs for the benefit of the citizens and businesses of West Des Moines, Iowa.

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INVOLVEMENT

VOLUNTEER your time or talents at Friends events, **DONATE**, **SERVE** on the Friends Board of Directors, or simply **SHARE** our mission with your friends and neighbors.



PRESERVATION

PRESERVE and **PROTECT** land and wildlife in West Des Moines to ensure the happiness and well-being of future generations.

ENRICHMENT

ENRICH our community by enhancing the quality of life in West Des Moines.

ENHANCEMENT

STRENGTHEN quality of life initiatives to better attract and retain businesses and employees of all ages.

CONTRIBUTE

DONATE to Friends of West Des Moines Parks & Recreation. Employers and employees alike, be sure to see how your place of business could double and sometimes triple the impact of your contribution through a match!

Receive a
Friends t-shirt
with a donation
of \$35 or more!



Donations can be
made by scanning
this QR code or at

www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsofWDMPR